Updating Indian Airlines/Air India

53. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "Need to update airlines" which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 29th September, 1992;

(b) if so, whether several foreign-airlines are earning huge profits as compared to the Indian Airlines/Air India;

(c) whether the aged fleet and non-observance of punctuality are the major setbacks for airlines in India; and

(d) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to published data of IATA, the world's scheduled airlines have suffered an estimated operating loss of US $ 1000 million during the year 1991. Most airlines, including US mega carriers and reputed European carriers have been in the red in this period. While Air India earned a net profit of Rs. 145.89 crores, Indian Airlines suffered a loss of Rs. 198.85 crores during the year 1991-92

(c) and (d) The average age of Indian Airlines fleet is 9.5 years and that of Air India is 9.8 years. Air India is acquiring four B 747-400 aircraft to replace the old aircraft. Indian Airlines is also adding 12 more A-320 aircraft to its fleet. Other measures like monitoring of punctuality, improvement of customer service etc, are also taken to improve the operating performance.

Vayudoot service to Gujarat

54. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide Vayudoot services to Bharuch-Godhra, Himatnagar, Mehsana and palanpur cities in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is a fact that in comparison to other States Gujarat, has very less air journey facilities; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to promote air services in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No Sir. nine cities/towns of Gujarat are airlinked by Vayudoot/ Indian Airlines.

Relief to Air Travellers of Tripura

55. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Jana Kalyan Parished of Tripura, Agartala, protesting against steeprise in passenger fares for Calcutta-Agartala air route;

(b) if so what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to give some relief to the air travellers of Tripura in view of isolation of the State from the rest of the country and the pressing need of the people of that State to visit Calcutta by air despite the hefty fare; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The fares charged by Indian Airlines and Vayudoot Limited for

services through Tripura are already lower than elsewhere.

Outcome of Visits India Year

56. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the outcome of Visit India Year; and

(b) what is the number of foreign tourists who visited India during the past five years, countrywise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The outcome of Visit India Year has been the creation of awareness about India as a tourist destination and development of tourism facilities in the country.

(b) The number of foreign tourists who visited India during the last five years are as given below:

Country	Tourists arrivals 1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
U.K.	176807	211996	237142	219277	220748
U.S.A	132124	123833	134539	115035	133373
Germany	75722	78137	77716	67060	77391
Sri Lanka	72500	70410	67419	68849	68123
France	65543	73258	82215	70946	72726
Janan	46851	50727	60769	52376	51953
Italy	41860	48694	51643	42273	49303
Canada	38497	36273	43222	36665	39931
Malaysia	27847	31205	33700	32633	30266
Switzerland	28048	31861	32226	31505	29956
U.A.E.	30992	30246	30396	25806	31362
Singapore	26461	27703	30375	31426	28810
Afghanistan	14366	21119	21275	20586	25215
Australia	33498	30102	30917	27878	22808
Pakistan	137427	152516	184101	142739	205962
Bangladesh	184784	201775	220751	230860	253884
Others	380161	399443	426673	397767	440081
Total	1513487	1619298	1765079	1613681	1781892

Non Functional Navigational Aids at Airport.

57. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether navigational aids on a large number of airports are non-functional;

(b) if so, what are the names of such airports and also the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to improve their performance?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The performance standard of the navigational aids is being maintained as per International Civil Aviation Organisation guidelines.

बिहार में होटलों और हवाई सेवाओं का विकास

58. **श्री गया सिंह:** क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटन में बिहार के राजगीर, नालंदा और बोधगया जैसे ऐतिहासिक महत्व वाले स्थानों में होटलों और हवाई सेवाओं के विकास के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार की क्या योजनाएं हैं?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिंधिया): पर्यटन की आधारभूत सुविधाओं के विकास